



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

Volume 19, No. 3

March, 2017

General Membership Meeting and Program

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, March 21st, 2017 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 6.30pm. The Church is located at 2931 Kingston Pike. The Church is on the right side of Kingston Pike if you are going west – away from downtown. It is between Second Presbyterian Church and The Teen Center. There will be plenty of parking.

Social time and Potluck 6.30. General Meeting and Chinese Auction to follow.

Come join us and bring a friend as we help celebrate Friendship Force International’s 40th Anniversary.

For the Pot-Luck, members are asked to bring, appetizers, salads, side dishes, meats or desserts. If you did not indicate your preferences at the February meeting please contact Sandy Kehne at (865) 438-4410 to let her know what you would like to bring,

We are also having a Chinese Auction. Every member is requested to bring between two and four items for the auction. Look for those things that you no longer use but which might be of interest to other members. Items you may have gotten during your travels, books, CD’s, DVD’s and international clothing have been a big draw.

How does the Chinese Auction work?

A brown paper bag is placed next to each item. To bid on any item you place as many tickets into the bag as you wish. At the end of the auction a ticket is drawn from each bag to determine the winner.

Tickets will be available for purchase on March 21st. Tickets are 50 cents each, 12 tickets for \$5.00 or 25 tickets for \$10.00. All proceeds from the auction will be used for future club events or programs. Every member is encouraged to purchase at least \$10.00 worth of tickets for the auction.

We look forward to seeing you at the Pot-Luck and auction.

Board Meeting

The Board will be meeting on 15 March, 2017 at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30. It's an open meeting, so anyone is welcome.

Note from the President

The Friendship Force of Knoxville is celebrating FFI's 40th anniversary with a pot-luck supper and Chinese auction on March 21 beginning at 6:30. Mark your calendar and be looking for those items you no longer want but others might. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends to explore the Friendship Force. I hope we will be able to show FFI's new video, and there will be time to share stories in addition to the auction and dinner.

Thanks to Ruthie McIntyre for an excellent, interesting, informative program on her and Lonnie's journey to French Guadeloupe in October 2016. We hope to have more programs like this in the future.

For our two incoming exchanges, we will be forming committees soon. Please complete the survey form sent to you concerning your involvement. We will host a group of ambassadors from Calgary Canada from Oct 21-27 and a group from Kosovo on an Open World exchange from Sept 8-16. I will continue to forward notices of other clubs looking to fill positions on their outbound exchanges. I hope everyone will take advantage of those. Please let me know if you are participating in any exchanges. We would like to advertise our involvement.

And if I haven't said it often enough, I would like to welcome Janis Robinson and LeRoy Rogers to the Board and to thank all the Board members for their guidance and assistance as I learn the ropes of my first year as President. I couldn't do this without everyone's help.

As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the club, please feel free to share those with me. My email is dlopez@utk.edu, and telephone is 865 223 4036.

Diana Lopez

Southeast Regional Conference

to be held on April 21st 2017 at **Magnolia Trace Retirement Community**, Huntsville, AL.

Accommodation will be available at Hampton Inn, Huntsville, AL.

For further information, contact

Joyce Bagwell

(joyce.bagwell@comcast.net),

Tom Laggy (tltide@bellsouth.net)

or members of our board.

EXCHANGES

INCOMING EXCHANGES

Open World Exchange: September 8-16, 2017

The inbound exchange from Kosovo is scheduled for September 8-16. There will be seven (7) participants. Five (5) will be ambassadors and two (2) will be Open World supervisors to both the ambassadors and our Friendship Force (FFK) Club members. The FFK Exchange Directors will need FFK hosts for the number of participants listed.

Calgary, Canada Exchange

October 21-27, 2017

The Calgary Friendship Force Club has contacted us several times to inform and keep us up to date as to their exchange scheduled with us in October. Their request to change the original scheduled date from October 17-23 to October 21-27 was approved by the FFK Board at their meeting on February 14. The original date (October 17-23) has been reserved just in case Calgary decides not to go to Washington D.C..

International Exchange Preview

We have received a preliminary inquiry from FFI about the possibility that we would be interested in a journey to La Serena, Chile in 2018. This possibility is being actively pursued and information will be passed on to members as it develops.

OUTBOUND EXCHANGES

2017 FFI World Conference

Manchester, United Kingdom.

August 25 to 27, 2017 For additional information, please contact www.friendshipforce.org

English Teachers in Myanmar

March 18 to April 2, 2017

The cost of this exchange is \$2600 USD per person.

For further information, contact: -

Jenny Pettit

FF Northern Colorado
jenny.pettit@gmail.com

Discover Morocco

April 21 to May 8, 2017

Cost US \$ 2060

Contact **Diana McIntyre**, ED

FF Edmonton and Area,

dianamci@shaw.ca

+1 780 469 4140

Nuremberg and Varel, Germany

April 25 to May10, 2017

Flights from Huntsville (to obtain a group rate). Their club can help with people who must travel to Huntsville

For further information, contact

David Lambert,

davidlambert3@wowway.com

1309 Teenajo Dr SE

Huntsville, AL 35803

256-882-1706

678-983-0318 (cell)

In Depth Kauai, Hawaii

May 16-26, 2017

For a description of the planned activities contact Lyn Hargreave at

lynhargreave@gmail.com. Fees \$1200, with a \$200 deposit in advance

New Plymouth, New Zealand, Adelaide and Perth, Australia

March 27 to April 20, 2017

Looks very attractive but provides few details. For further information, contact

Shirley Siebler

FF Greater Omaha

shirleykjs@cox.net

Metropole Ruhr, Germany

April 22 to 29, 2017.

This journey is being organized by FF New Hampshire Seacoast.

Approximate cost \$290 This includes FFI fee, host fee and ambassador club fee.

Contact Beth Cilley

FF New Hampshire Seacoast

Email Address: cilley@comcast.net

Contact Phone Number: [+1 603-749- 2981](tel:+16037492981)

Passion for Painters and Painting with FF Leuven, Belgium

April 30 to May 8, 2017

Do you dream of immersing yourself into a week of incredible painters and paintings, together with others who share your passion for art?

Spend a week with Friendship Force of Leuven, in the historic and buzzing university city. Come and learn from each other, together with local artists in their studio.

Price of the Exchange is US \$900 /person

More details are available from
Dany Vandebroek,
Exchange Director
dany.vandebroek@gmail.com

Ancestral and Contemporary Puebloan Culture in New Mexico

May 8 to 21, 2017 with FF New Mexico

Estimated cost \$1800 with a \$750 deposit.

This journey includes field trips to at least 8 national parks and national monuments as well as visit to contemporary pueblos.

If you are interested, contact the ED's soon because they must finalize some commitments

Contact

Lenore Pardee (lenorerp@aol.com) or

Judith Mead (j.w.mead@centurylink.net)

Columbia Cascades Club

June 9 to 16, 2017.

The Shelby, N.C. club has an exchange to Columbia- Cascades Club in Oregon

June 9-16. The highlight will be the Rose

Festival Parade. We have room for

6 ambassadors. We'd like to fill this

exchange. Anyone interested can

call me Ellen Gragg at 704-434-6883 or the

exchange director, Dianne Garner

at 704-434-4928.

Moon Shadow Over Oregon: 2017 Total Solar Eclipse

August 16 to August 25 (Exchange # 13430)

Homestays will be provided by The

Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-

Willamette Valley and the Friendship Force

Columbia Cascade We will accept

applications until January 15, 2017.

Contact information for the exchange:

Marilyn Peterson

541.916.7431 (home/cell)

Peterson.marilyn@comcast.net

Friendship Force International

The Catalogues for **December, January** and **February** list 13 additional exchanges.

Friendship Force Knoxville Meeting Minutes

The Friendship Force Knoxville Board will publish a combined Board and General Meeting summary of each month's minutes. Below is the summary for February, 2017:

Board meeting and other news includes:

Board approved change of VP Membership from Isaac Bader to LeRoy Rogers; Diana official welcomed LeRoy as the new VP.

Ray Simko summarized the January Treasurer's Report: Expenses: \$610 (FFK Charter renewal and meeting room rental); Income: \$135 (membership renewals); Current balance for Operating and Exchange accounts: \$8,753.47.

Janis Robinson told the group about including a summary of the Board and General Meeting Minutes in the Newsletter;

FFK business cards and new directories were distributed to attending members; each attending member received 2-3 blank FFK business cards to hand out to people who might be interested in FFK. Board members received personalized business cards.

FFI sent new promotional material.

Programs:

The programs scheduled to date:

February 21: Ruthie McIntyre will present information on the visit she and Lonnie made to French Guadeloupe in October, 2016.

March 21: Chinese Auction; Ray Simko reviewed how the Auction would work and encouraged members to come, buy tickets to bid on items and enjoy the potluck dinner. Sign-up sheets were distributed for members to indicate what dish they would bring to the potluck as well as whether they would assist with the set-up for the auction or the take-down.

April 18: pending

May 16: Diana Lopez and Sandy Kehne on their Galapagos trips

Other discussions:

Panos Ioannides announced that a card was sent from FFK to Fuad Mishu who is ill. The club is reminded to let Renee Ioannides know when a member is ill so we can send a card with our thoughts.

The date for the Christmas luncheon has been set for December 9, 2017, at the Lakeside Tavern. A fee of \$100 must be paid if less than 40 people attend.

Exchanges:

The Calgary exchange to Knoxville date has changed to October 21-27, 2017 and more details from Calgary about the number of visitors will be coming.

Ruthie and Lonnie McIntyre will give a workshop on exchanges before October. The Open World Exchange is scheduled for September 8-16, 2017 and titled "Multilingualism and Access to Public Information". There will be seven people coming. More information will be available later.

FFK did not receive any of the 2018 exchanges we requested and were given a list of others to choose from. The group

likes the idea of reviewing exchanges sponsored by other clubs and trying to join them. We also wanted to encourage anyone traveling with another exchange to let the club know.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Robinson

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

The Members of the Club send best wishes on their **Birthdays** to

**Isaac Bader
Gordon Ford
Joanne Schuetz
John Ellis**

and on their **Anniversary** to

Fuad & Layla Mishu